

# 2021 Clean Diesel Rebate Program Frequently Asked Questions

If you have questions about the Nebraska Clean Diesel Rebate Program, please review the following FAQ. If your questions still have not been answered, please send your questions or concerns by email to <u>NDEE.AirQuality@Nebraska.gov</u>.

# 1.0 APPLICATION PROCESS AND APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

### 1.1 Are we eligible for a rebate if we have already purchased a new vehicle or equipment?

No, you would not be eligible for a rebate. This rebate program is not retroactive and is for qualifying applicants that have not yet purchased a new vehicle or equipment. No reimbursements will be provided for equipment or vehicles purchased or contract work done before you have signed a project agreement with the Department.

#### 1.2 Can I lease a replacement vehicle?

No. Leased vehicles are not eligible for this funding opportunity.

# 1.3 Can we apply for a rebate for more than one diesel irrigation engine?

No. The program allows for only one engine replacement per applicant.

# 1.4 Can we apply for a rebate for more than one diesel truck?

Yes. The program allows refuse haulers to apply for rebates to replace up to two trucks.

# 1.5 We have multiple subsidiaries. If the vehicle being replaced is owned and operated by one of our wholly-owned subsidiaries, who should submit the application?

The application must be submitted by the parent company. Please submit a letter of explanation with the application if the name on the vehicle title is different than the name on the application and include the relationship between the parent company and the subsidiary.

# **1.6** Can a parent company with several wholly-owned subsidiaries submit applications for more than one of the wholly-owned subsidiaries?

No. The applicant in this case is the parent company and may submit only one application for one rebate.

# **1.7** I am a farmer who rents farm ground with a diesel irrigation engine I'd like to replace. Can I apply for an irrigation engine rebate?

No, the owner of the property and the irrigation engine must sign and submit the application and would receive the reimbursement. However, you can act as the project manager.

# 1.8 Are we guaranteed to receive a rebate if the application is complete and submitted on-time?

No. Funding is not guaranteed as there may be more applicants than available funding. Refuse truck and irrigation engine rebate recipients will be selected based on scoring of applications for public health benefit, emissions reductions, and cost-effectiveness. School bus rebate recipients will be selected by lottery.

#### 1.9 Can we obtain our purchase order before the project agreement is signed?

No. Purchase orders cannot pre-date the project agreement's signature. However, you may solicit quotes prior to signing the project agreement.

# 1.10 If funding is offered in future years, will awards be made from the current wait list?

No. If funding is available in future years, NDEE will issue a new announcement and applicants will need to reapply.

# 1.11 How many rebates will be available?

The NDEE anticipates awarding rebates for replacement of five diesel refuse trucks, ten diesel school buses, and 17 diesel irrigation engines. These numbers may change depending on the number of applications received in each category.

### 1.12 How will I get my rebate payment?

Before a rebate payment will be processed, the *Request for Reimbursement Form* must be completed and payment and scrappage documentation provided. Refer to the rebate announcement page on the NDEE website for a detailed list of required documentation. All payments over \$25,000 will be made electronically via electronic funds transfer using the ACH service. Payments for smaller amounts will be made by check.

### 1.13 How long do I have to purchase the new vehicle or equipment?

All grant requirements must be completed by August 31, 2023. The vehicle or equipment must be purchased and received, the old vehicle or equipment must be scrapped, and the *Request for Reimbursement Form* with all supporting documentation must be submitted by this date.

#### 1.14 What is the deadline to submit applications?

Applications will be accepted until January 13, 2022.

# 1.15 What costs are eligible for a vehicle rebate?

The only eligible costs are the base cost of the vehicle, including any equipment needed to allow the vehicle to function in the same manner as the vehicle being replaced.

# **1.16** Are applicants allowed to accept grant program money from other state or local programs to pay for vehicles in this program?

Yes. The applicant portion of funding (mandatory cost-share) may consist of funds from state and local grant programs, or other third-party funding and financing. However, other federal funds grant funds may <u>not</u> be used to cover any portion of the mandatory cost-share. Therefore, if you are receiving state or local funds for the purchases, you should ensure that the state or local program is not federally funded (e.g. EPA's State Clean Diesel Grant Program, EPA's National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program, DOT's Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program, USDA Rural Energy for America Program, etc.).

#### **2.0 VEHICLE ELIGIBILITY**

# 2.1 Is the conversion of a vehicle from diesel to CNG eligible for this rebate?

No. The Nebraska Clean Diesel Rebate Program is for replacements only and not conversions.

#### 2.2 What are the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) classes?

Class	Gross Vehicle Weight Rating
Class 3	10,001 – 14,000 lbs.
Class 4	14,001 – 16,000 lbs.
Class 5	16,001 – 19,500 lbs.
Class 6	19,501 – 26,000 lbs.
Class 7	26,001 – 33,000 lbs.
Class 8a	33,001 – 60,000 lbs.
Class 8b	60,001+ lbs.

#### 2.3 Is a used vehicle eligible for the replacement?

Yes, as long as the used vehicle has a certified 2019 or newer engine model year.

### 2.4 What is the EPA Engine Family Identifier and how do I find it?

The EPA Engine Family identifier is an 11 or 12-character number/letter designation included on the engine nameplate for all diesel engines sold in the United States. In general, both the engine family and model year can be found on a nameplate that is permanently affixed to the engine. The exact location and appearance of the nameplate varies by engine manufacturer.

If the engine label does not list the EPA-issued engine family name or it is difficult to read, the manufacturer of your engine may be able to assist you in determining the engine family name if you are able to supply information on the model year and make of the engine, or the engine serial number. Some manufacturers also have online tools to enter engine serial numbers and determine the engine family name.

Examples of engine labels with the engine family name:



